

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089936

FOLLOWING REPEAT MADRID 02538 ACTION ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN
LISBON LONDON PARIS ROME NATO APR 14:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 2538

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, NATO, SP, UR, PO

SUBJ: REPORTED NATO COUNTRY DEMARCHES WITH

SOVIET UNION RE PORTUGAL

1. OFFICIAL SPANISH NEWS AGENCY "EFE" REPORTED APRIL 8
FROM BRUSSELS THAT "LA LIBRE BELGIGUE" HAD PRESS NOTICE
SAME DAY ALLEGING THAT SEVERAL NATO MEMBER COUNTRIES HAD
MADE OFFICIAL DEMARCHES IN MOSCOW ON PORTUGUESE SITUATION.
SUBSTANCE OF DIPLOMATIC MOVE WAS TO WARN SOVIETS OF THREAT
TO PRESENT RELAXATION OF TENSIONS IN EUROPE WHICH POSSIBLE
CHANGE IN PORTUGAL'S ALIGNMENT MIGHT ENTAIL.

2. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN PRESS REPORTS THAT FRG GOVT
SPOKESMAN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT FRG AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW HAD
RECENTLY DISCUSSED WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS IMPLICATION OF
CURRENT PORTUGUESE DEVELOPMENTS ON DENTENTE.

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3. MFA DIRECTOR OF EASTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS ALLUDED
APRIL 10 TO THESE REPORTS TO EMBOFFS AND ASKED IF EMBASSY
COULD PROVIDE FURTHER INFO. HE NOTED THAT EMBASSIES OF
EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAD RECENTLY ADOPTED U.S. PRACTICE OF
EXCHANGING VIEWS WITH SPAIN ON PORTUGUESE DEVELOPMENTS
WHICH HAS BEEN MUTUALLY HELPFUL. CONSISTENT WITH OUR
CURRENT PRACTICE OF FREQUENT EXCHANGES ON PORTUGAL,
AND WITH OUR INTEREST IN BRINGING SPAIN CLOSER TO NATO
AFFAIRS, EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME INFO IT COULD PASS ON TO
SPANISH REGARDING ANY RECENT COORDINATED APPROACHES BY
NATO STATES TO SOVIETS ON PORTUGAL.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT AND INFO ADDRESSEE POSTS
INCLUDING MADRID AS INFO ADDRESSEE FOR TELEGRAMS REPORTING
DISCUSSIONS ABOUT PORTUGUESE DEVELOPMENTS WITH HOST COUNTRIES
OF IN NATO CONTEXT. STABLER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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